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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 03653 301500Z
ACTION EUR-12

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----------013351 301505Z /46
O 301440Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9792

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 3653

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CPRS, ETRD, EEWT, RO
SUBJECT: MFN EXTENSION AND THE TUDOR CLAIM

REF: BUCHAREST 3637

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED FOLLOWING NOTE VERBALE, NUMBERED 8/15535 AND DATED MAY 30, 1978, FROM GOR CONCERNING ORGHIDAN COLLECTION AND TUDOR'S CLAIM. QUOTE

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIAN PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND, REFERRING TO THE EMBASSY'S NOTE NO. 52 OF APRIL 27, 1978, HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM THE EMBASSY THAT:

1. THE CONSTANTIN ORGHIDAN COLLECTION BECAME THE PROPERTY OF THE ROMANIAN ACADEMY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WILL LEFT BY CONSTANTIN ORGHIDAN ON JUNE 9, 1944, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DECISION OF THE FORMER ILFOV TRIBUNAL, CIVIL SECTION 6, RECORDED IN ITS LEDGER ON NOVEMBER 23, 1946. (THE DECISION) REMAINED FINAL (DOSSIER NO. 3760/1944 AND ANC CERTIFICATE NO. 6654/1948 OF THE ILFOV TRIBUNAL, CIVIL SECTION 1).

2. MARTA ORGHIDAN'S SUCCESSION (SUCCESIUNEA) WAS DELIBERATED (A FOST DESBATUTA) UPON ON APRIL 25, 1967, AND THE SUCCESSOR'S
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CERTIFICATE NO. 187/1967 WAS ISSUED BY THE STATE NOTARY OFFICE OF DISTRICT "30 DECEMBRIE," BUCHAREST.

3. ALL THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DATES AND ACTS PRE-CEDE THE DATE OF DECEMBER 23, 1974, WHEN ION UNGUREANU WAS GRANTED U.S. CITIZENSHIP.

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THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END QUOTE.

2. GOR NOTE CITED ABOVE IS IN RESPONSE TO OUR NOTE VERBALE NO. 52 OF APRIL 27, 1978, THE TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS. QUOTE:

THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO CONVERSATIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S REQUEST THAT INFORMATION BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONCERNING THE ORGHIDAN COLLECTION. THE INFORMATION DESIRED IS WHEN AND BY WHAT MEANS THE ORGHIDAN COLLECTION CAME INTO THE POSSESSION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA, AND ANY FINDINGS BY COURTS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA WITH RESPECT TO THE ORGHIDAN COLLECTION, AND THE DATE OR DATES OF SUCH LEGAL PROCEEDINGS OR FINDINGS.

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THE EMBASSADOR APPRECIATES THE COOPERATION AFFORDED TO DATE BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON THIS MATTER AND LOOKS FORWARD TO AN EARLY RESPONSE. END QUOTE.

3. COMMENT. BELATED GOR RESPONSE TO NOTE APPEARS TO BE HELPFUL, DESPITE CERTAIN AMBIGUITIES IT CONTAINS. DISCUSSIONS WITH BADESCU, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY FOLLOW-UP IN AMBASSADOR-OPREA CONVERSATION OF APRIL 30 PRODUCED SOME GIVE ON GOR PART. WE HOPE THAT OVERALL EFFECT OF GOR RESPONSIVENESS WILL BE TO DISCHARGE SOME OF CONCERN ON THIS ISSUE APPARENTLY BUILDING UP BEHIND MERRIGAN'S ACTIVITIES ON TUDOR'S BEHALF.
AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, TEXTS OF JUDICIAL DECISIONS REFERRED TO IN GOR TEXT ARE AVAILABLE TO TUDOR'S LAWYERS.
AGGREY

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